

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

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SUBJECT Economic Information: The Sino-Soviet Airline
in Northwest China

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1. Although the Sino-Soviet Airline is supposedly jointly owned by the USSR and China, its financial interests are solely in Soviet hands.
2. The Chinese chief executive of the airline, who resides in Tihua, is merely a figurehead. All other executives and all pilots and staff members in the operations department are Russian. Minor jobs are performed by Chinese. Recently, the Soviets agreed to use additional Chinese personnel.
3. The operations staff is apparently well-experienced in winter operations, and the four C-47's which make up the flight equipment of the airline are fully equipped for cold-weather flying.
4. The general public can purchase tickets on the line without difficulty.

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